

NEWS

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ASU surpasses UW goal

For the fourth consecutive year, ASU has exceeded its stated United Way goal. The 2006 ASU campaign raised \$692,941 against a target of \$662,671 and \$98,000 more than was raised in 2005.

In recognizing the achievement, ASU President Michael Crow said: "Members of the ASU family – faculty, staff, retirees and colleagues from the ASU Foundation – understand the critical challenges faced by our community. We are responding to those challenges in many ways, and one of the most important is through funding the important work of the Valley of the Sun and Mesa United Ways.

"This year's unprecedented level of support will help tens of thousands of our neighbors and their families meet critical needs for success and prosperity."

More than 2,700 ASU donors contributed to the campaign.

Entrepreneurship expands

ASU has been named a leading entrepreneurial university and awarded a \$5 million grant by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation to extend access to entrepreneurship education across the university.

Kimberly Loui, executive director of ASU's Office of University Initiatives, says ASU's vision of a New American University provides the right framework for the institution "to act quickly, take calculated risks and engage communities in inventive and meaningful ways."

The Kauffman Campuses Initiative was launched in 2003 to foster the creation of interdisciplinary entrepreneurship education programs in American higher education available to all students.

Police group elects Pickens

ASU Chief of Police John Pickens has been elected vice general chair of the University and College Section of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

Pickens' new role includes supervising and advising regional chairs as well as advising and consulting with the general chair.

"IACP's selection of John for this position is significant because it is a recognition of him as a national leader in law enforce-

ment," says Paul Ward, ASU vice president of administration.

IACP is the world's oldest and largest non-profit membership organization of police executives with more than 20,000 members in nearly 89 countries.

Carnegie Foundation honors ASU

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has selected ASU for its new "Community Engagement" classification, recognizing the deep involvement of ASU faculty and students in activities that benefit the broader community.

ASU offers more than 1,030 outreach programs throughout the state, making a difference in the lives of Arizonans by providing needed educational, cultural, legal and health care services.

The new classification was developed as part of an overhaul of the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education and is in addition to ASU's basic classification as a research university with very high research activity.

Two examples of ASU's outreach programs are:

- Theater professor Stephani Woodson helps children in foster care create digital videos about themselves to tell their stories to new caseworkers, who often pass through their lives with little continuity.

- Nutrition professors Linda Vaughn, Donna Winham, Kathleen Woolf and Jeff Hampl educate children in grades K-12 throughout the Valley about good nutrition. Their work includes a food-gleaning program for low-income elementary schools, education at Pappas schools for homeless children, nutrition guidance to high school athletic teams and programs tailored for high school student newspaper staff members.

Redistricting on screen

The Arizona School Redistricting Commission is working on a research assignment and the ASU Decision Theater is one of its key resources.

The commission was created to review school districts that are not "unified," meaning they don't offer instruction from pre-K through grade 12. The commission will examine those school districts and consider combining them into new unified districts to,

in part, provide more integrated instruction and to potentially increase efficiencies.

The challenge was in trying to get a bird's eye view of the districts and how they would look with any given change.

Rick Shangraw, Decision Theater executive director, says the theater's role in this effort epitomizes what the theater is about: providing tools for informed analysis as part of the decision process.

The theater staff collected data on each of the school districts including district boundaries, average daily attendance, operational expenses, teacher salaries, student demographics and student-teacher ratio, put that data into a model allowing commissioners to visualize the information, and then ran "what if" scenarios for them.

If a commissioner asks what happens if they propose combining non-unified district A with non-unified district B into unified district C, the Decision Theater can create a new map showing the new district configuration and provide spreadsheets reflecting the new combined data.

"The Decision Theater tools have helped us organize a very complex geographical, educational and public policy issue in a way that allows the commission to display unification plans for others to see," says Marty Shultz, commission chairman.

Two named AAAS Fellows

Margaret Nelson, professor of anthropology and associate dean of ASU's Barrett Honors College, and Daniel Sarewitz, professor and director of the Consortium for Science Policy and Outcomes, are being named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Nelson is cited for "significant accomplishments in Southwestern archaeological research, teaching in field archaeology and academic administration." She is a faculty member in ASU's School of Human Evolution and Social Change, and has research interests in long-term cycles of change in human organization and land use.

Sarewitz is being recognized for "distinguished contributions to the practice and scholarship of science, technology and environmental policy, and particularly for understanding the intertwined nature of science, values and decision-making."